

Dear Members,

I have worked in radio for over 10 years in the "corporate radio" structure which tightens playlists and frowns upon creative broadcasting. They are only concerned with the perception of being listener friendly, and rarely consider the concerns and comments of the listeners themselves. I discovered XM Satellite Radio less than a year ago, and have not gone back to "free" radio. For starters, the music channels are commercial free. More of the music I love without so much chatter, hyped liners, or ad men screaming at me to buy their products. Second, the variety of music offered on XM suits the many tastes of any listener. Even if people are stone country, they like different styles of country, and not just what the "free" radio stations make them listen to. Even I get a taste for reggae music, jazz, experimental, oldies, pop, whatever, once in a while. And now that XM is offering local traffic and weather, that makes my purchase of satellite radio even more valuable. Besides, how long to you real listen to a channel like that anyway? 1 or 2 quick reports and you're out of there. Back to the music, or news, or comedy, or whatever you like. If the "free" radio stations offered the wide variety of programming that XM does 24 hours a day, we would have nothing to talk about. But the sad truth is that they don't. Therefore, even for former professional broadcasters, XM is far more worth it to me than local "free" radio. Please reject the NAB's petition 04-160 and allow XM to provide the programming and services that I pay for. Thank you for your time and consideration.